

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 115258
ORIGIN ARA-14

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:G DE SANTILLANA/KAR
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P 052032Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PORG, DR

SUBJECT: ELECTION OBSERVERS

REF: (A) SANTO DOMINGO 2327; (B) STATE 055969

1. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT THE PROPOSED GROUP OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL PARTY "ELECTION OBSERVERS" FOR THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (REF. B) IS NOT YET FIRM. OF THE THREE POLITICAL PARTY ORGANIZATIONS CONSIDERING SENDING A JOINT TEAM OF OBSERVERS--THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION, THE U.S. DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND THE LIBERAL INTERNATIONAL-- ONLY THE CDU HAS SELECTED ITS REPRESENTATIVE, FORMER PHILIPPINE SENATOR RAUL MANGLAPUS. PROPOSED DEMOCRATIC PARTY REPRESENTATIVE IS GREGORY WOLFE, DEAN OF SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AT THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN WASHINGTON, D.C., BUT THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS NOT YET APPROVED SENDING WOLFE. ACCORDING TO A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 115258

STAFF MEMBER OF THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, IF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY DOES NOT APPROVE, WOLFE WILL TRAVEL WITH MANGLAPUS "UNDER THE AUSPICES OF REP. FRASER," SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN. THE LIBERAL INTERNATIONAL HAS NOT COME UP WITH A SUITABLE CANDIDATE, AND PROBABLY WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROPOSED GROUP OF ELECTION OBSERVERS. THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WILL NOT RPT NOT

SEND ANY OBSERVER.

2. MRS. CORETTA KING HAS BEEN INVITED BY THE WASHINGTON OFFICE ON LATIN AMERICA (WOLA) TO OBSERVE THE DOMINICAN ELECTIONS AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THIS PRIVATE ORGANIZATION INTERESTED IN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS. SHE HAS NOT YET ACCEPTED. IF SHE DOES, HER VISIT TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WOULD HAVE NO CONNECTION WITH THE USG.

3. AS REPORTED REF B, THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL REPORTEDLY PLANS TO SEND ONE OR MORE ELECTION OBSERVERS TO THE D.R., BUT INDEPENDENTLY OF OTHERS; NO AMERICANS WILL BE INVOLVED.

4. ACCORDING TO SUBCOMMITTEE STAFF MEMBER, REP. FRASER'S OFFICE PLANS TO CALL ON DOMINICAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S. HORACIO VICIOSO WITHIN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO TO INFORM HIM OF THE PLANS OF THE CDU AND (POSSIBLY) THE U.S. DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO SEND A JOINT TEAM OF ELECTION OBSERVERS TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. MANGLAPUS AND WOLFE PLAN TO DEPART FOR SANTO DOMINGO ON FRIDAY, MAY 12. CHRISTOPHER

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